

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02

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R 260830Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4058

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 5432

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM ID

SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA

REF: (A) STATE 098641, (B) JAKARTA 3819, (C) JAKARTA A-42,
(D) SURABAYA 0236, (E) JAKARTA 4433

1. IN THE INTEREST OF PROVIDING A BALANCED PICTURE
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF
CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS MAY 3, IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT THE
REFERENCED REPORTS BEAR OUT THE CONTINUING INTEREST AND
EFFORT OF THE GOI IN IMPROVING THE HUMAN RIGHTS CLIMATE
HERE. REF. B NOTES ADMIRAL SUDOMO'S AFFIRMATION THAT
HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS SHOULD BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ESTABLISHED LEGAL PRINCIPLES AND THAT CLASS B DETAINEES
ARE BEING RELEASED IN STAGES. REF. C CONFIRMS THAT
DETAINEES ARE ACTUALLY BEING RELEASED AND THAT REHABILITATION
SERVICES ARE BEING PROVIDED. IT ALSO NOTES THAT GOI IS
TAKING A MORE COOPERATIVE POSITION IN RECEIVING REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL. REF. D. REPORTS RELEASE OF CLASS B DETAINEES
IN EAST JAVA, SOME OF WHOM ARE SAID TO COME FROM BURU
ISLAND. REF. E NOTED RELEASE OF 7 MORE MALARI DETAINEES.

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2. IN ADDITION, RECENT QUESTIONING OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

ALI SAID BY REPORTERS ON SUBJECT OF TIMING OF RELEASE
OF REMAINING 6 MALARI DETAINEES AND APRIL 21 KOMPAS
EDITORIAL ON SUBJECT REFLECT INCREASING WILLINGNESS OF
INDONESIAN PRESS TO FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS AND
PROD GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE RELEASES WITHOUT DELAY. SAID
KOMPAS, "WHATEVER THE GROUNDS, IT'S SURELY NOT ENCOURAGING
WHEN IN A STATE PEOPLE WITH VARIOUS POLITICAL VIEWS HAVE
TO BE INPT IN CUSTODY. IT CAN BE VIEWED AS A SIGN THAT
SOMETHING IS WRONG IN THE STATE.....THIS IS OUR COMMON
PROBLEM AND RESPONSIBILITY AND NOT JUST THE GOVERNMENT'S
BUSINESS. IT WILL BE EASIER FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO SEEK
A SETTLEMENT IF THE PUBLIC SHOWS A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND
SUPPORTS IT".
NEWSOM

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